

TIMELY REAL ESTATE TALK

One of the Really Crying Needs of Omaha Again Presented.

SMALL COTTAGES ARE IN DEMAND

Five and Six-Room Houses Scarce and Continual Request for Them at High Rentals is Marked.

That there is a field for investment in Omaha in the erection of five-room modern cottages cannot be repeated too many times. So says a man who for the last two weeks has kept up a constant hunt for a cottage of this description, and all in vain. He has been in all parts of the city, and has found not a single vacant five-room entirely modern cottage. Eight-room houses he has found, and also a few five and six-room cottages without furnaces and more than likely without bath. Being a man with a small family, he does not want the eight-room houses, and being a man who values comfort and convenience, he would like a bath in his house. The result is, after two weeks search and worry, he has decided to stay where he is, in a dwelling not at all satisfactory.

In perhaps no city of similar size in the country is the number of small modern cottages so limited as it is in Omaha. Those who went on the Commercial club trip to the northwest coast were impressed with this fact. In Spokane they saw hundreds of beautiful, substantial dwellings of five rooms and six rooms, all on one floor, and Tacoma was not far behind Spokane in this respect. While those towns are growing, the number of these cottages was large enough that a citizen stands some show of getting one of them, at least as good a show as he stands of getting a large one.

"If I had the necessary money," said one citizen, who has had no experience trying to rent a house, "I would build small modern houses as fast as I could put them up. They will sell as fast as you can build them. They will also rent as fast as you can build them. You can get all the way from \$30 to \$50 a month for them, depending on whether they are five or six rooms, on the location and other factors. They should be substantial and of neat and attractive design, for people in this day are not content to live in something that looks like a cracker box. Five rooms on one floor will rent readily from six rooms on two floors. With all the houses on one floor you have greater convenience for small children or the invalid."

Considerable West Davenport street property has been changing hands lately. William Arthur recently bought two lots near first and Davenport, one of which he will improve at once with a double brick flat costing \$7,500. Dr. C. A. Hull has bought the vacant lot across the street from the Arthur lots from Ed O. Hamilton and will build a residence there this summer.

Birkett & Tebbens report the following recent sales: To Frank Kuehl, Sixth and Poppleton avenue, house and lot, for investment; J. F. Whitlock, acre and seven-room house, Curtis avenue, near Miller park; J. F. Maxwell, a lot in Dundee, on which he is erecting a fine home; John Carey, a home on North Seventeenth, near Charles; William Von Kroge, a double frame flat on Lot 109, for investment; Frank Dughy, a home on South Twenty-eighth street, near Hickory; John Nelson, a fine improved twelve-acre tract near Florence; J. F. Bils, flat near Eighteenth and Leavenworth, for investment; John Tamerick, two lots on Elliston subdivision, for building purposes.

A petition has been filed with the city clerk to pave North Nineteenth street from Wirt to Emmet.

Mr. Arvid Anderson has started his new home in Kountze Place, on Pinkney street, just east of Twenty-first.

Hastings & Heyden started excavating last week for a new brick flat opposite the Sherman apartment house on Sherman avenue, just north of Lake street.

Hastings & Heyden and Garvin Bros. let a contract to Tom Nelson to build a six-room, all modern, two-story house on Lake street between Sixteenth and Eighteenth streets, to be started at once.

Grading will be begun Monday on forty acres of ground which is soon to be put on the market as residence property. The tract lies between Dodge and Howard streets and Forty-eighth and Fifty-first streets. The hills and hollows will be reduced to an easy grade, which requires the removal of about 15,000 yards of earth and the expenditure of \$25,000. Lewis S. Reed and Mrs. James Chadwick are owners of the property, and they have let the contract for grading to the O'Keefe Construction company. Douglas, Farnam, Harney and Howard streets are to be opened, and macadamized from Forty-eighth to Forty-ninth street, and Dodge street is already opened. Forty-ninth is also to be macadamized. That part of the tract lying between Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth streets is to be divided into lots, 60x130 feet, and they will be improved with cement walks, water, sewer and gas. The remainder of the tract will be divided into large lots fronting on Forty-ninth street. This property will make a slightly residence section when it is graded, and it will have an advantage over the greater part of Dundee property in being closer to the city.

George N. Roberts, manager of the Bemis Bag company, has bought from the Milton Trust company a lot on the east side of Thirty-sixth street, just south of Duwey avenue, paying \$3,900. It is 60x132 feet. Mr. Roberts will erect a fine home there.

Not a week goes by but investments of outside money in Omaha are announced by the real estate men. A small purchase last week was made by A. P. Colley, a banker of Loup City, Neb., who bought from J. P. Hadfield the latter's home at the southwest corner of Cumby street and Twenty-first avenue. The property consists of a lot 60x125 feet and a seven-room residence. Mr. Colley paid \$4,500.

Neither does a week go by but a number of people from other towns and states move to Omaha and either buy residences or lots on which to build them. Mrs. Lyle Burns, who has just come to Omaha from Lincoln, has just bought a handsome \$3,900 residence at 1133 North Twenty-third street from Anthony Wilkinson, who bought the house and two others adjoining from George W. Garlow.

"Do you know," said a real estate dealer, speaking of the death of W. A. Paxton, "that the Paxton block yonder once paid less than 2 per cent on the investment? That was in the '90s."

"Yes," replied another, "and the same statement can be made of many other buildings in the city of Omaha. We have heard that word 'boom.' Well, look in the

Impromptu Races Part of Fun at Real Estate Exchange Picnic at Bellevue



STARTERS IN THE MEN'S EVENT.



WOMEN LINED UP FOR THEIR DASH.

As they boomed with a vengeance, and prices went higher and buildings rose faster than the growth of the city and country warranted. No wonder some of them didn't pay 2 per cent when hard times came.

All of which the first speaker agreed was true. Then the two talked over present conditions and agreed that the 2 per cent income would never prevail again, since advance in realty prices and increase in the number of buildings are both made on a solid basis.

George G. Wallace, a veteran real estate man, notes a growing disposition toward more attractive advertisement among members of his fraternity. Not only does the tendency display itself in larger advertisements in the daily papers, but is seen in the literature sent from the realty offices. Illustrating his point, Mr. Wallace exhibits a folder which he issued to herald the charms of the Adams ranch, in Cheyenne county. It is replete with a number of fine half-tone engravings descriptive of the ranch, contains several pages of reading matter and is made of good paper; all of which must have cost a neat sum. The O'Keefe Real Estate company issues plates of all the ranches it offers for sale. Hastings & Heyden, Harrison & Morton and a number of local firms get out plates of all the additions they place on the market.

E. M. F. Leflang of Lexington, Neb., was in Omaha Friday looking after his holdings of business property. He has bought eight buildings in Omaha within the last eighteen months and he intends to buy more in the course of time.

"Yes; I will continue to put my money into Omaha realty as I get it free from other things," said Mr. Leflang. "It is the best paying proposition I know of. It is much better than farm investments, for you get only about 4 per cent on your money in farms and you don't have to take anything like as low as that on Omaha business property."

J. H. Dumant & Son report the following sales: The home of W. Ernest Johnson, 309 Hawthorne avenue, to Henry Hawkins, president of the Metropolitan Mutual Bond and Surety company for a home; the new building and lot at 213 Farnam street for Mr. Margaret V. Solomon to Irving R. Fuller of Fullerton, Neb., as an investment, consideration, \$5,500; 145x175 feet lot at the corner of Park avenue and Harney street, for C. D. Woodworth company to M. L. Parrotte, \$1,200; a vacant lot in block H, Walnut Hill, for the S. D. Mercer company, \$25.

EXPRESS CASE STILL IN AIR

No Decision Rendered by Judge Munger in Attack on Sibley Law.

The cases of the several express companies in the application for a temporary injunction to restrain the Nebraska State Railway commission from enforcing the terms of the Sibley law cutting down express rates, are still at statu quo. Judge W. H. Munger heard the arguments Saturday morning, but gave no decision. The arguments for the state were made by Halleck F. Rose of Lincoln, assistant counsel for the state, though Attorney General Thompson was present during the hearing. Charles J. Greene appeared for the express companies, the cases being joined.

SETTLEMENT SUITS UNION

Terms of Agreement at San Francisco Satisfactory to All Operators. Advice received by Secretary Kirkland of the Omaha local of the Commercial Telegraphers' union indicates that the settlement of the San Francisco strike is highly satisfactory to the union. According to the report received by him, the settlement includes the taking back of every strike without prejudice and an agreement to arbitrate the wage question. The agreement was signed by President Small of the Telegraphers' union and by the superintendents of the telegraph companies, and the telegraphers contend that

COAL MEN MAKE DEFENSE

Affirm Their Profits Are Low and Trust Controls.

RISE AND NOT DECLINE ON TAB

First of September, They Assert, Will Find Fifty Cents Increase Per Ton in Anthracite.

A statement came from a firm of coal shippers of Kansas City this week, announcing it would sell coal to the local dealers much more cheaply than the "trusts" has been selling it. It stated that the dealers of Nebraska should "sit up and take notice," as they were being "harpooned" to the amount of from 50 cents to \$1.19 a ton over rates on Colorado coals in southern Kansas and Oklahoma. Disguised as a reporter for The Bee, Mr. Downdrottin Common People took the list and visited some of the leading local dealers. He pointed out that if the f. o. b. price at the mine is lowered, the local dealers must lower their prices or be forced out of business.

Then the local coal men drew out their books and elucidated some of the intricate secrets of the coal business. They laid bare the facts of the business, and having done so, they spread their hands and said, "Now condemn me if you can." Fathers and mothers, if you have little sons, strive that they may never enter the coal business. Carefully guard your little girl from marrying boys who may possibly become coal dealers. Beautiful, blooming girls, shun the company of young men who are in or are likely to be in the coal business. For the coal business and poverty are one and the same thing. The coal dealers themselves have said it. They proved it from their books.

Let Them Come On.

To a member of the firm of Sunderland Bros., the circular was shown. The man smiled the smile of the mind untroubled, untrifled, at peace. "If they want to come in here and do business, let them come," he said. "I am not so tired to hear this everlasting chatter about the big profits the Omaha coal dealers are making. There is only one bare living in it. If the people would only quit talking and start into the business they would soon find out there is no money in it. All citizens from newspaper men down to coal dealers, like to have a good place in the estimation of their fellows and we don't like to go out on the street and be pointed out as some of 'those coal

LAW REUNITES FAMILIES

Wife Abandonment Statute Serves to Bring Neglectful Husbands to Time.

The wife abandonment law is proving valuable in uniting husbands who neglect to support their families and their wives. County Attorney English has just dismissed three wife abandonment suits for the reason that the families have been reunited and the husbands are doing their duty in the way of providing the necessities of life for those dependent upon them. The cases dismissed were against Ernest Harlow, Joe Klusa and James Coffey.

County Attorney English has also dismissed the charge of robbery against Ray Snyder, who was convicted last April of snatching a street car conductor. Snyder was charged with holding up Guy E. Myers, a North Twenty-fourth street druggist, and robbing him of \$23. The case was abandoned because of insufficient evidence. Snyder was sentenced to three months in jail for shooting at the conductor and is now serving his sentence.

Harry A. Courtier has filed suit in district court for a divorce from Anna M. Courtier. He charges her with misconduct and asks for the custody of their two sons who are now living with their mother at 68 North Sixteenth street.

Bertha Johnson has been granted a divorce from Ole C. Johnson by Judge Kennedy. She was given the custody of their daughter.

LAW TO GOVERN OFFICERS

Ordinance Regulating the Conduct of City Officials Prepared by Bridges.

Councilman Bridges has at last succeeded in having an ordinance prepared to his liking to govern the movements and conduct of city officials. The first chapter provides that all elective officers shall notify the city clerk when they are to be absent from the city for more than twenty-four hours; that appointive officers, heads of departments or their assistants shall not be absent from the city for more than twenty-four hours without first obtaining the consent of the city council, except in case of sickness or death in their families; that should they be absent without such permission they shall forfeit their salary for the time they are so absent. The ordinance is scheduled for presentation Tuesday night.

BALLOT CASE IN LINCOLN

Fight Over Rotation Voting Sheet Likely to Be Heard at Capital.

The fight over the rotation ballot, which is threatened in the courts probably will come up in Lincoln instead of Omaha from present indications. County Clerk Haverly has taken the position he has no discretionary power to decide what the law is, but will have to take the primary ballot as it comes from the secretary of state, as far as the state offices are concerned. He will also follow the ruling of the secretary of state in making up the local part of the ballot on the grounds the ballot must be uniform and not partly rotated and partly alphabetical in the order of names.

In order to bring the matter to a head it is likely that some candidate interested will ask Attorney General Thompson for an interpretation of the law. Then a suit

WAR ON CATALOGUE HOUSES

Crusade of Wide Scope Begun by Commercial Organizations.

NEBRASKA ONE OF THE STATES

Headquarters Are in Chicago and Movement Contemplates Union of Half Million Retail Merchants of West.

One of the most striking economic movements the country has ever known has been undertaken by the Home Trade League, which has headquarters in Chicago. It is banding together 500,000 retail merchants of the west in a fight against the big catalogue houses. The movement is backed by the jobbers, who unwittingly made the catalogue houses the powers they are; it is supported by the manufacturers, who find the catalogue houses growing so powerful as to dictate to them, retailers all over the country are joining in the organized fight. The backbone of the league, however, is formed of commercial associations, national, state and local in character, in Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Michigan, Kansas and Minnesota. Many of them do not wish to be known as supporters of the league, so their influence is exerted without the blare of trumpets. Their financial contributions are made by the members individually.

Nebraska Supporting League.

The league is said to be receiving great encouragement in Nebraska, in which state certain localities are spending 40 per cent of their money with Chicago catalogue houses. Local merchants are in the organization by means of self-organizing jobbers, though not one could be found, who would admit he had anything to do with the movement, are said to be strong supporters of it.

The league has hitherto existed largely as a publicity bureau, but it will soon assume a corporate existence and direct its campaign through a board of twenty-one managers, with an advisory committee of ten members from each state. Membership fees will be \$1.

Policy of the League.

Following is the policy of the league as outlined by Alfred C. Clark, its manager, in the Chicago Tribune: Meeting Competition—Facing the wholesaler, manufacturer, and jobber to give local merchants the same rate as the mail order concerns. Under present conditions home merchants are compelled to sell their lines of goods at a higher rate than the favored big institutions, because they cannot buy as cheaply from the manufacturer or jobber. Consumers are being asked before they send their orders to the catalogue house to give local dealers a chance to compete with the catalogue merchant. The local merchant cannot meet the competition the Home League will place him where he can.

Repeals—Merchants of catalogue houses are asked not to buy a dollar's worth of goods of a jobber or manufacturer who sells to a catalogue house. Consumers are being asked to buy from the larger mercantile institutions of Chicago no longer sell to catalogue houses now, among them Hillbrand, C. W. Barton, C. W. Barton, Pirie, Scott & Co., the John V. Parwell company, the Dieston Saw works, and others. "We do not sell goods to a catalogue house," appears on the stationery of several firms.

Warning Circulars Issued.

Publicity.—The league already has issued hundreds of thousands of circulars, headed "Country Merchants, Take Warning," with thousands of leaflets and thousands of letters, urging dealers to buy nothing of jobbers or manufacturers who continue to sell to the catalogue houses. Editorials have been printed in local papers and in pamphlet form, reaching a circulation during the last six months of nearly 20,000,000. Arousing Local Pride.—Appealing to latent though potentially powerful sentiment of local pride or loyalty in every community.

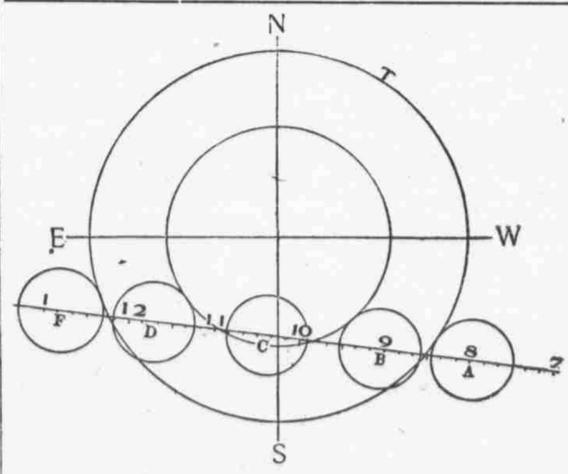
Excursions.—In some of the cities where the fight against the catalogue houses has been fiercest the local merchants' associations have organized excursions and entertained visitors from the surrounding neighborhoods with the express purpose of convincing them they can sell goods as cheaply as the mail order concerns.

Personal Work Among Consumers.—When a farmer brings in his butter and eggs, the local dealer sometimes says: "The eggs and fine butter, but go and sell them to a mail order house," or words to that effect.

The Ivy Rebekah lodge, No. 33, I. O. O. F., will meet at Chambers academy, 25th and Farnam, Wednesday evening, July 24. Mrs. COOPER, Mrs. STIEN, Mrs. CLARK.

FOR RENT. New 7-room cottage, bath, all modern conveniences, shade and fruit trees, 40th, north of Dodge. Inquire, J. W. Robbins, 182 Farnam.

Partial Eclipse of the Moon



PARTIAL ECLIPSE OF THE MOON JULY 24, 1907. Moon enters penumbra 7:59 p. m. Middle shadow 9:04 p. m. Moon leaves shadow 11:41 p. m. Moon leaves penumbra 12:46 a. m. after midnight.

Agonizing this eclipse is not of much importance, but as the next one is two years away and the time of the present one is very convenient, no lover of astronomy will fail to observe it. On December 1 the almanacs tell us that we shall have a lunar apogee. As the word is apt to puzzle the reader, the present opportunity seems itself very well to an explanation. Let the reader turn to the diagram and imagine the moon's path A-B-C-D-E. B is moved farther away from the center of the shadow. It will see at once that the farther this line is moved away the smaller will be the eclipse; that is, the less will the moon be immersed in the shadow. Now if this line is moved away exactly so far that the moon in running along it will just graze the shadow without entering it, this phenomenon would be styled an annular, and that is what will occur next December: the moon will graze the earth's shadow without entering it, or, in other words, the magnitude of the eclipse will be zero. The moon will then appear as it does at the moments when it enters and leaves the shadow; that is, as it will do during the present eclipse at 9:04 and 11:41 p. m. next Wednesday, with the side next the shadow considerably darker. But even this will be invisible in Omaha, because it will occur an hour before the moon rises for us. WILLIAM F. RIGGS, S. J.

FIRE SALE
The entire stock of Jos. F. Bilz, which was destroyed by fire, smoke and water in the Schlitz Hotel Block will be placed on sale
TUESDAY, JULY 23rd
At O'Donahoe-Redmond-Normile's Old Store, Sixteenth and Howard
Everything must go regardless of prices. Watch ad in Monday papers
Fire Sale at 16th and Howard Sts.
JOS. F. BILZ
Store at 312 S. 16th St.
OPEN FOR BUSINESS. WE ARE RECEIVING NEW GOODS DAILY